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**Notification of European publication number and information on the application of Article 67(3) EPC**

The provisional protection under Article 67(1) and (2) EPC in the individual contracting states becomes effective only when the conditions referred to in Article 67(3) EPC have been fulfilled (for further details, see information brochure of the European Patent Office "National Law relating to the EPC" and additional information in the Official Journal of the European Patent Office).

Pursuant to Article 158(1) EPC the publication under Article 21 PCT of an international application for which the European Patent Office is a designated Office takes the place of the publication of a European patent application.

The bibliographic data of the above-mentioned Euro-PCT application will be published on 29.11.06 in Section I.1 of the European Patent Bulletin. The European publication number is 1725714.

In all future communications to the European Patent Office, please quote the application number plus Directorate number.

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